

# Smoke Signal



MOYAONE  
ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME LVIV

JANUARY 2019

NO. 1

## *President's Note:*

### **A Great Ending Helps a Good Beginning**

— *Michael Leventhal*  
*MoyaonePresident@gmail.com*

A belated Happy New Year greeting. May this year be one in which everyone is healthy and enjoying the peace and beauty of our incredible area.

Before we go too far into 2019, let me take a moment to thank everyone who contributed to the Moyaone in 2018: First, thanks to the Moyaone Task Force working to stop Dominion Energy's proposed Charles Station compressor project; and to all those individuals, political leaders, government officials, and groups who put in time, effort, and money; and of course, thanking the Ladies Association of Mount Vernon and all Mount Vernon staff, membership, and supporters goes without saying. Those efforts and involvement truly made the difference in getting Dominion Energy to drop plans for this compressor station.

Second, a shout-out of thanks to all of those Moyaone property owners who supported the Moyaone Association with their annual dues in 2018. Everyone who drives on our roads knows that without Moyaone dues-paying members, the travel on our gravel roads would be somewhere between miserable and impossible. And those who took advantage of our community pool know that those dues-paying members helped make possible another summer of fun.

Third, a major thank you to all of the Moyaone Association committee chairs, committee members, and elected Board members. Being a volunteer and wanting to make a difference where you live is always a larger endeavor than originally expected, taking up more time and thought than could be known when accepting the responsibility. If not for

these volunteers, the Moyaone community would not enjoy so much of what many of us take for granted. So, to all you — committee chairs, committee members, and Board members, hugs and kudos.

Fourth, sincere appreciation to all of the contractors hired by the Moyaone who take care of our roads, remove fallen trees, and push the forest back off the road as well as plow the snow. And also gratitude to all of the lifeguards, pool managers, and swim team volunteers who give our summer swimming a wonderful and safe environment. Thank you all for being involved and committed to our community.

Now to 2019. Most everyone who gets a copy of *Smoke Signals* lives or owns property in the Moyaone Reserve. Later this month, the new 2019 membership dues

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*Art by Sheila Cox.*

## President's Note

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invoices will be mailed or emailed to landowners. The majority of the property owners pay their dues either in one payment or over a 10-month period. To all of you who do that, thank you in advance for your sense of community. As I hope everyone knows, no federal, state, or county funds are given to the Moyaone to maintain our roads or pool properties. When paying our membership dues, we continue to honor the sense of personal responsibility that originally helped to develop the Moyaone Reserve.

To those property owners who do not pay their membership dues, I hope that this year there will be a change in your view about fiduciary responsibility. Not living on the gravel roads or not using the pool are not valid arguments and avoid the real issue. Either you understand that the Moyaone is a unique community and environment that is protected and maintained by the stewardship of those fortunate enough to live here or you do not. It is not about whether or not you are friends with neighbors; it is all about place and your role in keeping such a treasure secure over time. It is hard to believe that anyone who lives here — no matter in what neighborhood, on what road, or in what size/style house — doesn't appreciate, feel lucky to live in, and recognize the responsibility to protect the Moyaone Reserve.

All of that said, I hope that in 2019 all Moyaone property owners choose to responsibly pay their dues. And if that is not a realistic position, I would hope that those not wanting to pay their complete dues would at least contribute something for the community good to enable our precious corner of the world to remain physically and fiscally healthy. I welcome the chance to talk with any landowners wanting to clarify any rationale for choosing not to be responsible fiscal stewards. Just contact me: MoyaonePresident@gmail.com.

### **RESOURCES**

**Moyaone Reserve** (<https://www.moyaone.org/>)

**Moyaone Modern** (<https://moyaonemodern.com/>). Dedicated to the preservation, education and promotion of the mid-century modern architecture of Piscataway Park (<https://moyaonemodern.com/>).

See the January 2019 issue of *Washingtonian* magazine for an article by Dan Reed about the Moyaone: "Into the Woods: What an innovative Maryland enclave of midcentury-modern homes has to tell us about suburban life."

## **National Historic Register Designation for Moyaone Reserve Moving Forward**

— Rita Bergman

Following the unanimous vote at the Dec. 2018 Moyaone Association meeting to pursue National Historic Register designation, we have initiated the process for applying for grants that would support the application to designate the Moyaone on the National Register of Historic Places. In early January, Moyaone President Michael Leventhal and I met with Howard Berger, who is the Planning Supervisor for Historic Preservation for the Prince George's County Planning Dept. within the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission. We discussed the process for securing funding and the management of the project. He was very supportive and strongly encouraged us to pursue this effort using non-capital grant funds from Prince George's County, Maryland state funds, and other potential related sources. In addition, he felt it would be beneficial for the Moyaone Association to provide a small amount of good faith funding, with a mix of real dollars and in-kind efforts.

The funding is critical to support the necessary research that provides the documentation for the Maryland State and National Register applications. It would support contracting with a preservation architectural firm that is experienced and certified to prepare the nominations. Our principal rationale is the historical and architectural significance of the Moyaone Reserve in both protecting the Mount Vernon viewshed and several mid-century modern houses by notable architects including Charles Wagner, Charles Goodman, and Walter Gropius. Overall, receiving National Register designation would enable us to counter effectively future efforts that might threaten the Moyaone and its unique environment, such as the recently defeated plan by Dominion Energy to build a gas compressor station nearby.

One of the first steps will be to solicit competitive bids to support our efforts and we are starting to prepare those requests for proposals. At this point, it is estimated the total costs will be roughly \$60K but until we receive the bids, we will not know for sure. We are reasonably confident that most of the funding can be realized through grants.

Michael has asked me to serve as the Project Manager, and I will continue to report on activities to the community. However, if there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at ritabergman22@gmail.com.

# **The Moyaone Moneybag**

— Charles Gaumond

## **The Complexity of Budgets**

One of my minor irritations has been the erosion of the value, or purchasing power, of US currency. When I was young, my friends and I would walk around looking for loose change in the parking lots of the ice cream stand or the small grocery store. A penny could make a big difference then, especially if I found a dime. At that time New York State, a state with laws about any and every activity, had a sales tax and it pushed the cost of a ten cent candy bar, such as a delicious Snickers or exotic Mars Bar, to eleven cents. If I had only a dime, I would revert to buying a five cent Zero candy bar, which was so cheap that every kid noticed. It was named Zero because there was no chocolate in the coating; it had a white substance that had the mouth feel of chocolate, but without any taste. But the Zero was five cents and I could buy two separate and distinct purchases and end up with two, last-resort candy bars.



What value does one cent have now? Does anyone pick them up in the parking lot? What costs are incurred by using the cent? One hidden cost to everyone is the necessity of keeping track of small amounts of money, which requires more “information,” by which I mean “bits” of information, as in I have a 32-Gigabyte SD card (which contains  $8 \times 32 = 256$  Gigabits). The physical storage of information isn't a problem for the Moyaone comptroller or anyone else. However, people record these numbers in QuickBooks, checkbook ledgers, and invoices. People must keep track of cents and that increases the amount of potentially incorrect information contained in financial reports. For example, this year the Moyaone Association made 337 expenditures, ranging from small charges from PayPal to large charges for one-time capital expenses on the septic system and pool. The largest expenditure was in the tens of thousands. This amount of information was trivial with computers, but dealing with small amounts of money incurs human costs of accounting for these insignificant amounts of money.

The 2019 Moyaone budget specifies about 18 lines of expenses rounded off to the nearest \$10. I compared this with a budget from a “real budget,” the 2018 Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation R-1 (RDT&E R-1), which I found on the website of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) (USD(C)). This is truly a real budget; the total of the lines is \$73 billion with 910 entries that are rounded off to the nearest thousand.

The total federal budget for 2018 was about \$4 trillion, about 44 times as large. The total number of lines could

be 40,000 lines (44 x 910). That's an incredible amount of numbers for Congress to assess, modify, and approve. Do they really look at line items rounded to the nearest thousand in a 4 trillion dollar budget? That would be the equivalent of the Moyaone Association's budget having line items rounded to the tens of cents in our hundred thousand dollar budget. I haven't heard of anyone who believes that this could be a problem with the federal budget.

At the close of 2018, I looked at the numbers in our budget and realized how many things came together for us: enough members paid their dues in full; enough people contributed money; enough people paid for pool memberships; enough people volunteered for so many different roles from being the chair of a committee to anonymously picking up trash by the sides of our roads. All of this shows the enduring vitality of the Moyaone Association, our association.



*Cardinal. Art by Sheila Cox.*

## **Moyaone Association Board**

- *President Michael Leventhal*  
Moyaone President@gmail.com
- *Vice President Rose Kim*  
Moyaone Vice President@gmail.com
- *Comptroller Charles Gaumond*  
Moyaone Comptroller@gmail.com
- *Secretary Gwen Peters*  
MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com
- *Director-at-Large Karen Hoagberg*  
MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com

TEA



Hot Chocolate  
Juice

FREE



JAVA

## Warm Up at the Moyaone Winter Cafe: Conversation, Hot Brews, Treats and Eats

***Saturday, Jan. 26, 9–11 am  
Wagner Community Center,  
2311 Bryan Point Road***

Come for coffee (or tea) and donuts, and stay to chat with your neighbors. Or talk with some people from our community who are ready to tell you about mushrooms galore in the Moyaone, the beginnings of the Moyaone, and mid-century modern architecture. Learn about your neighbors' special interests in gardening, the arts, and cooking — and find out how you can participate.

If you are new to the community, get some helpful information about living in the Moyaone, including the community garden, pool and swim team. Bring the kids for juice and hot chocolate. This event is free and all Moyaone residents are welcome. Don't forget to sign up for the door prize, a \$50 gift certificate to Charlie's restaurant in Fort Washington.

Or just stop by to grab a cup of coffee ... *it's the perfect way to begin a winter Saturday morning.*





***Dear Friends, Neighbors,  
and Fellow Conservation Warriors,***

It has been an extraordinary privilege working, playing, and occasionally fighting the forces of darkness beside you for the past nearly eight years. This experience has profoundly and forever changed me in the most positive of ways. The opportunity to help today's students — who are tomorrow's decision makers — get a strong grounding in the natural world is truly life-changing and I have enjoyed sharing this journey with you.

This new year brings a new opportunity for me — one I simply can't pass up. As many of you know, I've served on the Maryland Climate Change Commission over the past few years. Through that process I have come to appreciate the importance of regeneration, particularly as it relates to agriculture and land management. With this passion burning in my heart, I have been offered an opportunity to influence **today's** decision makers as the Director of Policy Engagement for COMPASS, a national organization that connects scientists with policy makers to make meaningful change in the world.

It was not an easy decision to make. I truly love our mission, our community, and all the people we are privileged to serve. I will work full-time through the end of January and then take a short break as I prepare to join the COMPASS team in mid-February.

This community will always have a very special place in my heart and I look forward to continuing to be involved as a volunteer at both the Alice Ferguson Foundation and the Accokeek Foundation. Thanks for all each of you do to support our collective nonprofit efforts and I know we can count on you to continue to do so in 2019 and beyond!

With gratitude,

***Lori***

Lori Arguelles  
President and CEO, Alice Ferguson Foundation



**Davies Concert Series Presents  
“Figaro Meets Frederick Douglass:  
A Fundraising Concert for CAAPA”**

**Sunday, Jan. 20, 4 pm. Davies Memorial Unitarian  
Universalist Church, 7400 Temple Hill Road,  
Camp Springs, MD**

Davies Concert Series, now in its 47th season, will present a special concert entitled “Figaro Meets Frederick Douglass.” This event will be a fundraising concert for the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts (CAAPA).

In a musical tribute celebrating the 125th anniversary of the death of abolitionist Frederick Douglass and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s 263rd birthday, the Davies Concert Series partners with the CAAPA to present a historic concert connecting two genres; opera arias and Negro Spirituals performed by Washington National Opera musicians Jarrod Lee, baritone; Wayne Jennings, tenor; Alexander Strachan, narrator/violinist, and accompanied by Dr. Lester Green.

The concert will be preceded by a short performance by student artists Russell and Barrett Sullivan, who will perform violin duets.

Davies Concert Series, a tax-exempt 501(c) (3) charitable trust, is committed to presenting classical music concerts, offering educational opportunities for young audiences, and providing a venue for new American music.

The concert is open to the public but freewill offerings will be gladly accepted. For more information, contact Osman Kivrak (301-375-7109).

**Lynn Hollyfield Music Events**

*Happy New Year to you and yours! Hope you had a wonderful holiday season! Below are some upcoming shows ... looking forward to new adventures with music in 2019! Thanks for your continued support. All the best! Stay warm, Lynn (www.LynnHollyfield.com)*

**Saturday, Jan. 12. The Homegrown Coffeehouse.** IlyAIMY with Emi Delia opening. Doors open at 6 pm. Opening act 7:15–7:45 pm, Emi Delia. Main act 8–10 pm. Admission \$12. More info: 240-305-0876. National Colonial Farm, Adult Education Bldg., 3400 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek. Homemade soups, bread and cheese (served 6–7:30 pm); desserts, tea and coffee (all evening).

<https://www.facebook.com/events/244670236218913/>

**Friday, Jan. 25, 7:30–9 pm. Annette Wasilik, New CD Fundraiser.** Help support friend Annette Wasilik in her upcoming CD project. Lynn will be lending some harmonies to Annette’s beautiful tunes. Tonal Park Allyworld Soundstage, 7014 Westmoreland Ave., Ste. 7, Takoma Park, MD.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/490162161390797/>

**First Friday Coffeehouse, Friday, Feb. 1, 7–10 pm.** 4599 Shepherdstown Road, Martinsburg, WV. Admission \$10. Enjoy an atmospheric evening of great music. Snacks and refreshments served. Trinity Orchard House, 4599 Shepherdstown Rd. (Rt. 45), Martinsburg, WV. From Shepherdstown, it’s four miles on the right from the four-way stop, just before The Pump House. A \$10 donation per person is requested. For more info, contact Steve Warner (304-676-4422) or visit us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Friday->

**Exercise Classes**

Interested in starting the New Year with a little exercise and flexibility but don’t want gym prices or a lot of driving around? Join us here in the Keek at 8 Hands Wellness.

If you’re interested in Pilates, intermediate, beginner or yin yoga or just want more information, text Maria @ 301-266-5585 or email mariafemia@hotmail.com (please realize, if you haven’t been in contact before, your email might get lost in spam). We have other services to inquire about also!

